

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 01719 190923Z

17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

/072 W

----- 046525

R 181635Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

SECSTATE WASHDC 2960

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1719

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, GW

SUBJECT: NORTHERN CROSSING POINT

REF: USBERLIN 1604

1. SUMMARY: SPD SPONSORED " TOWN MEETING" STYLE CITIZENS FORUM HELD AT FROHNAU BIERKELLER AUGUST 16 DESIGNED TO DEFUSE FROHNAU CITIZEN CONCERN BY EXPLAINING ALL ISSUES ABOUT NEW PROPOSED NORTHEERN CROSSING POINT TURNED OUT TO BE SHOUTING MATCH BETWEEN SENAT REPRESENTATIVES AND LOCAL RESIDENTS. ALL POLITICAL JUSTIFICATIONS FOR NEW CROSSING POINT WERE STRONGLY CONTESTED BY FROHNAU CITIZENS AT MEETING BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE PROJECTED TRAFFIC PROBLEMS INVOLVED THREATENED TO CHANGE IDYLLIC, SEMI-RURAL CHARACTER OF AREA. SENAT WILL REMAIN FIRM IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR TO FIND SOLUTION FOR GDR " DUCKBILL" PROTRUSION INTO BERLIN IN CONNECTION WITH TRAFFIC ACCESS PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH NEW NORTHERN CROSSING POINT. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USBERL 01719 190923Z

2. DIETRICH STOBBE, SENATOR FOR FEDERAL AFFAIRS, AND

HORST LEKUTAT, HEAD OF THE CONSTRUCTION SECTION OF THE SENAT BUILDING AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT, BOTH MADE PRESENTATIONS TO ABOUT 300 LOCAL FROHNAU RESIDENTS ASSEMBLED TO DISCUSS NORTHERN CROSSING POINT. STOBBE STRESSED THAT IT WAS POLICY OF SENAT AND WESTERN ALLIES TO CONSIDER ANY HOLE IN WALL AN ADVANTAGE. INCREASED ACCESS TO BERLIN WILL INCREASE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT FOR BERLINERS AND SHOULD BE PURSUED. STOBBE STATED THAT IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE SENAT AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WERE DETERMINED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT "ENTENSCHNABEL," LONG THORN IN SIDE OF FROHNAUERS. OBTAINING "DUCKBILL" AS PART OF BARGAIN, STOBBE SAID, WAS NUMBER ONE PRIORITY IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR.

3. FROHNAU'S CITIZENS REMAINED SKEPTICAL, HOWEVER, AND CONTINUED TO QUESTION DM 28 MILLION COST OF UNDERTAKING AS WELL AS NECESSITY OF ANOTHER CROSSING POINT. SENAT CONSTRUCTION EXPERT LEKUTAT, TRYING TO EXPLAIN THREE BASIC ALTERNATIVES OPEN TO SENAT, WAS MET WITH STRONG OPPOSITION FROM CROWD FOR EVERY PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD. IT WAS CLEAR THAT ASSEMBLED LOCAL RESIDENTS DO NOT WANT CROSSING POINT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE TRAFFIC PROBLEM WILL INCREASE NO MATTER WHAT ALTERNATIVE IS USED.

4. OFTEN EMOTIONAL GROUP OF CITIZENS REACTED VIOLENTLY WHEN THEY WERE INFORMED THAT 700 CARS PER DAY WERE EXPECTED TO USE BORDER CROSSING POINT, IN ADDITION TO 30 TRUCKS. DURING PEAK HOLIDAY TRAFFIC PERIODS, 2000 CARS PER DAY ARE EXPECTED (OFTEN OVERLOOKED IS FACT THAT ROADS THROUGH FROHNAU PRESENTLY CARRY 12,000 CARS PER DAY IN NORMAL TRAFFIC CONDITIONS).

5. SENAT REPRESENTATIVES TRIED VERY HARD TO BE SENSITIVE TO CITIZENS CONCERNS BUT MADE LITTLE PROGRESS SINCE TWO SIDES FUNDAMENTALLY AT ODDS OVER ENTIRE ISSUE. SENATOR STOBBE TOLD MISOFF LATER THAT ATTITUDE DISPLAYED BY FROHNAU CITIZENS AT OPEN HEARING WAS SELFISH AND NARROW MINDED BUT IN END THEY HAD BEEN FORCED TO ACCEPT FORCE OF LOGIC AND SHEER REASONABLENESS OF SENAT POSITION.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USBERL 01719 190923Z

6. COMMENTING TO MISOFF ON HEADLINE PRESS STORIES ABOUT MEETING STOBBE CONFIRMED THAT FRG AND SENAT PREPARED TO DISCUSS PAYMENT TO GDR TO DEVELOP ZEHRNDORFERWEG ON GDR SIDE OF WALL ONLY IF GDR PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE SOLUTION TO "DUCKBILL". STOBBE SAID GAUS HAD MADE THIS CLEAR TO HONECKER WHEN THEY MET LAST WEEK, AND HONECKER HAD NOT REJECTED IDEA;

7. ACCORDING TO STOBBE SENAT BELIEVES GDR MADE SERIOUS TACTICAL ERROR IN COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO OPENING NORTHERN CROSSING POINT WITHOUT OBTAINING FRG AGREEMENT IN ADVANCE TO SHARE CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT COSTS. BY MAKING SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION, OF DUCKBILL PROPERTY EXCHANGE OR PURCHASE PREREQUISITE TO FURTHER FRG CONSIDERATION FOR PAYING FOR CROSSING POINT CONSTRUCTION IN GDR, SENAT AND FRG FEEL ONUS FOR CARRYING THROUGH OR BREAKING OFF PROJECT IS NOW ON GDR'S BACK. STOBBE ADDED THAT WHILE HE PERSONALLY BELIEVES CREATION OF NEW CROSSING POINT IMPORTANT TO FRG'S OVERALL BERLIN AND OSTPOLITIK POLICY OBJECTIVES, HE FULLY SUPPORTS FRG AND SENAT POSITION WHICH HE DEVELOPED AT FROHNAU MEETING THAT CROSSING POINT DESIRABLE, BUT ONLY ON FRG'S TERMS-- I.E., AT REASONABLE CONSTRUCTION COSTS AND WITH DUCKBILL THROWN IN.
GEORGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BERLIN HIGHWAY ACCESS, BORDER CONTROLS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USBERL01719
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760318-0097
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760840/aaaabiyw.tel
Line Count: 133
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 USBERLIN 1604
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NORTHERN CROSSING POINT
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GC, GE
To: BONN STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006